



MAP EXPLANATION

The Western Region of the United States Geological Survey includes the 9 Western States and the Pacific Islands. The region contains 51 million citizens and approximately 76% of the Federally managed lands of the United States. The USGS serves the science needs of Federal Land management agencies as well as the needs of the citizens in the region. This map shows the location and distribution of USGS offices in the Western Region. The USGS has offices at more than 86 sites in the region and in 2000 employs approximately 2400 employees.

MAP PREPARATION

This shaded relief map was constructed from data sets provided by the USGS and available on the Internet. Digital elevation data/model (DEM) at a scale of 1:250,000 were acquired for the conterminous United States, Alaska, and Hawaii. The data were then assembled into an Albers Equal Area (AEA) projected digital mosaic using Arc/Info, Geographic Information Systems software from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). Digital Line Work (DLG) formatted data for the roads and hydrography in the conterminous US at a scale of 1:100,000 was also acquired and mosaicked into a separate AEA Arc/Info layer. Point data for the cities was acquired from USGS Geographic Names Information System (GNIS). These data were then imported into a third AEA Arc/Info layer. The DEM mosaic was then exported into the Planetary Imaging Cartography System (PICS), image processing software developed in Flagstaff, AZ by USGS Flagstaff Field Center personnel. In PICS, the elevation was color-coded. All the data were then imported into an Apple Macintosh computer where the layout of the map was constructed using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop. The cartographic work was done by Michael Gishey with technical guidance by Alex Acosta, both from Office of Program Support, and assistance from others in Flagstaff, AZ. Vicki Chmill, Western Mapping Center, Menlo Park, CA, assisted in providing data and preliminary layout for the Pacific Islands. The concept for this map was developed by Edwin L. Pfeifer (USGS, Flagstaff, AZ) and Thomas J. Casadevall (USGS, Menlo Park, CA).

INFORMATION ABOUT THE USGS

Information about the USGS in the Western Region can be obtained by contacting the USGS Regional Headquarters, the USGS State Representatives or the State Earth Science Information Center.

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EARTH SCIENCE INFORMATION CENTERS IN THE WESTERN REGION

Earth Science Information Centers (ESIC) offer nationwide information and sales service for USGS map products and earth science publications. Not every State contains an ESIC office. The ESIC offices listed here are located in the Western Region. These ESIC's provide information about geologic, hydrologic, topographic, and land use maps, books, and reports; aerial, satellite, and radar images and related products; earth science and map data in digital format and related applications software; and geodetic data. ESIC offices can fill orders for custom products such as aerial photographs and orthophotoquads, digital cartographic data, and geographic names data. ESIC offices can also provide information about earth science materials from many public and private producers in the United States using automated catalog systems for information retrieval and research services.

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Digital Shaded Relief Map of the Western Region, United States Geological Survey